

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Uzbek SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT Industrial and Miscellaneous
Information on Samarkand

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Samarkand N 39-40, E 66-58, second largest city in the Uzbek SSR after Tashkent, had a population of 200,000, of whom about one-third were Uzbeks, one-third Russians, and one-third national minorities, such as Tadzhiks, Armenians, and Tatars.
2. The following industrial plants were located in Samarkand:
 - a. A raisin factory, located near the railroad station, which processed the surplus of the grape crop in the Samarkand Oblast.
 - b. A preserves factory (Konservnyy Zavod), which processed surplus fruit and vegetables, and recently started production of fish and meat preserves as well.
 - c. A cotton mill (Khlopkovyy Zavod), located near the railroad station. Large lots near the plant serve for storage of cotton bales.
 - d. The Lenin Factory (formerly Krasnyy Dvigatel), a numbered, military plant. It was the largest industrial enterprise in Samarkand, employing about 2,000 workers. It produced tank motors and components, according to rumor.
 - e. A silk weaving mill (Shelko-Motalnaya Fabrika), located on Shaumyana Street.
 - f. A superphosphate factory (Superfosfatnyy Zavod), located near Charkin N 39-41, E 66-48 railroad station, between the Samarkand and Dzhuma N 39-42, E 66-40 railroad station. This plant was constructed by prisoners over a three or four year period. A workers housing project was erected nearby, and a railroad stop on the Samarkand-Katta-Kurgan line, called Superfosfatnyy, was established. According to workers of the plant, it was a chemical factory serving the armed forces; the only

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fertilizers manufactured there were from waste materials of the main product (no details). The factory was put into operation in 1955 and during the first year, the inhabitants of its vicinity were greatly annoyed by its smoke and gases, which affected both people and plants within a radius of two to three kilometers. Thereupon, a special commission was sent from Moscow in 1956 to investigate the situation. It recommended the establishment of special installations to absorb the gases which were contaminating the area. The plant, which was directly subordinate to Moscow and not under the competence of the local Sovnarkhoz, employed local inhabitants, but people were unwilling to work there because it affected their health. Workers complained that, after having been employed there for two or three years, their teeth started to decay, among other bad effects. According to rumor, the plant had a function similar to that of the chemical factory in Chirchik /N 41-29, E 69-35/, and the area was to become "another Chirchik" /sic; probably the Chirchik Elektrokhim Zavod/.

3. The economy of the Samarkand Oblast and town was based mainly on cotton crops. In return for the cotton produced there - and in the entire Uzbek SSR - the population was adequately supplied with other goods and enjoyed priority of industrial products, such as clothes and shoes. Sugar beet cultivation and sugar production, which had been encouraged in the ~~kolkhozy~~ during the war, have been replaced by cotton growing. In summer, during the cotton harvest, school children as well as workers in plants and institutions were recruited to help the ~~kolkhozy~~ in cotton picking.
4. The following are details on public utilities in Samarkand:
 - a. Samarkand had two power stations, one located near the railroad station and the second on the corner of Frunze and Engels Streets. Additional power was supplied the town by the hydroelectric power station (GES) ~~near Khirshav (?)~~ /sic; probably Khisharskaya GES/ in the Samarkand Oblast. In spite of this there was still a shortage of electric power in the town and cuts in electricity for lighting were frequent, particularly in winter.
 - b. Water was supplied by a network of ditches, fed by a main ~~originating~~ in the mountains. In order to ensure an adequate supply during the summer, the inhabitants would fill up the wells which existed in almost all yards.
 - c. The laying of a gas line from the vicinity of Bukhara /N 39-48, E 64-25/ to Samarkand was completed in 1958, after which construction of a central gas supply system was begun.
 - d. Public transportation was by buses, trolley buses, and one trolley line, running from the railroad station to the market in the old city via Oktyabr and ~~Karl Marx~~ Streets.
 - e. Interurban transportation in the Samarkand Oblast was by buses from the town to those districts which had suitable roads.
5. Samarkand had the following academic institutions:
 - a. A medical institute (Meditsinskiy Institut).
 - b. The Uzbek State University (Uzbekskiy Gosudarstvennyy Universitet; UzGU).
 - c. Two teachers institutes.
 - d. An agricultural institute (Selskokhozyaystvennyy Institut).

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6. Samarkand had the following hospitals:
- The Republican Hospital (Respublikanskaya Bolnitsa), located on Chernaya Doroga, the street connecting the railroad station with the old city. The hospital had all the usual wards, each housed in a separate building, and a total of about 1,000 beds. Most of its medical staff members also served as lecturers at the medical institute.
 - The City Hospital (Gorodskaya Bolnitsa), located on Karl Marx Street.
 - Two hospitals for contagious diseases, one situated near the railroad station and the other in the old city.
 - An oncological hospital (Onkologicheskaya Bolnitsa), located on Engels Street.
 - A railroad workers hospital.
 - The 396th Military Hospital, located in pre-revolutionary buildings at the end of Uzbekistan Street. The hospital, which had about 200 beds in 1949-1950, served the Samarkand garrison units stationed in the town and its vicinity.
7. Construction of residential buildings was under way in Samarkand, financed by the municipal council and destined for workers of institutions and industrial plants. The buildings were made of brick and were not more than two or three stories because the earthquakes which occasionally rocked the town area would endanger higher structures.

Military Information

8. The following units were subordinate to the garrison headquarters located in a two-story building on Communist Street:
- A military camp, accommodating tank and infantry units, located on Karl Marx Street, near its intersection with Oktyabr Street.
 - The largest military camp in Samarkand and its vicinity called "Lager", located six to eight kilometers from the town, on the extension of Krasnogvardeyskaya leading to Katta-Kurgan N 39-55, E 66-157. The camp accommodated an armored corps unit equipped with tanks and artillery (no details). During the war the camp had contained an armored corps school.
 - The old fortress, located in the center of the town, on the boundary between the old and the new city. According to rumor, it was used by the armed forces for the storage of artillery ammunition. Trees were recently planted around the fortress area.
9. Numbered food stores, maintained by a military unit and commonly called "Voyenny Obyekt", were located to the right of the railroad tracks and about one kilometer from Dzhuma railroad station, going to Katta-Kurgan. The stores were subordinate to the Directorate of Military Stocks (Upravleniye Voyennogo Zapasa) in Moscow and were administered by a director specially sent from Moscow. The stores were served by a railroad spur off the Samarkand-Katta-Kurgan line, and the area was fenced in and guarded by military personnel. The buildings were tall (?), made of bricks, and covered by sheet-iron roofs. According to rumor, the stores stocked mainly sugar and tungsten. The sugar arrived by train from distant locations (?) and the tungsten arrived in bars from a plant in Iyangan, near Bukhara, according to rumor. No other foodstuffs except sugar were known to have been stored in the warehouses.

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10. The airfield for Samarkand was located north of the town, near the railroad line to Tashkent. It was both a civilian and military field. About 20 canvas-covered aircraft, guarded by a small air force unit stationed at the field, were observed parked on subsidiary unsurfaced runways in 1958.
11. In early 1959, a TU-104 aircraft on a scheduled Moscow-Tashkent flight could not land at Tashkent airfield because of heavy fog and had to be diverted to the military airfield in Karshy N 38-53, E 65-48. This was a large field with long, concrete runways, with numerous jet aircraft parked there. According to rumor, Tashkent and Karshy were the only airfields in the whole of Central Asia suitable for TU-104 aircraft. The passengers of the aforementioned flight were not allowed to remain at the Karshy airfield and were taken to a hotel in town.

Personalities

12. Chakirov (fnu) had been chairman of the Samarkand municipal council since 1956. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
13. Dzhurayev (fnu) was director of the Samarkand city finance department (forfinotdel). [redacted] 50X1-HUM
14. Kamdamov (fnu) had been chairman of the Samarkand municipal council until 1956, when he became director of the propaganda department at the Samarkand Oblast Party committee. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
15. Colonel Nesterov (fnu) was commanding officer of the Samarkand city military commissariat. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
16. The following individuals were employed at the 396th Military Hospital in Samarkand:
- a. Colonel Akimov (fnu), deputy commander of the hospital [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- b. Bukarova (fnu), female, was secretary of the hospital and one of its veteran employees. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- c. Col. Moskovskiy (fnu), was director of the internal diseases ward at the 396th military hospital in 1950. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- d. Major Oster (fnu), specialist for internal diseases at the hospital [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- e. Lt. Col. Rasokhin (fnu) had been commanding officer of the 396th military hospital until 1951-1952, when he was transferred to Saratov, where he served in the same capacity. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- f. Capt. Tyverskiy (fnu) had been director of the dental ward of the hospital until 1951, when he was assigned to Frunze. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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17. Available in CIA Library, from where copies may be obtained, is a sketch map of Samarkand indicating the points covered in the attached legend:

Legend to Sketch Map of Samarkand

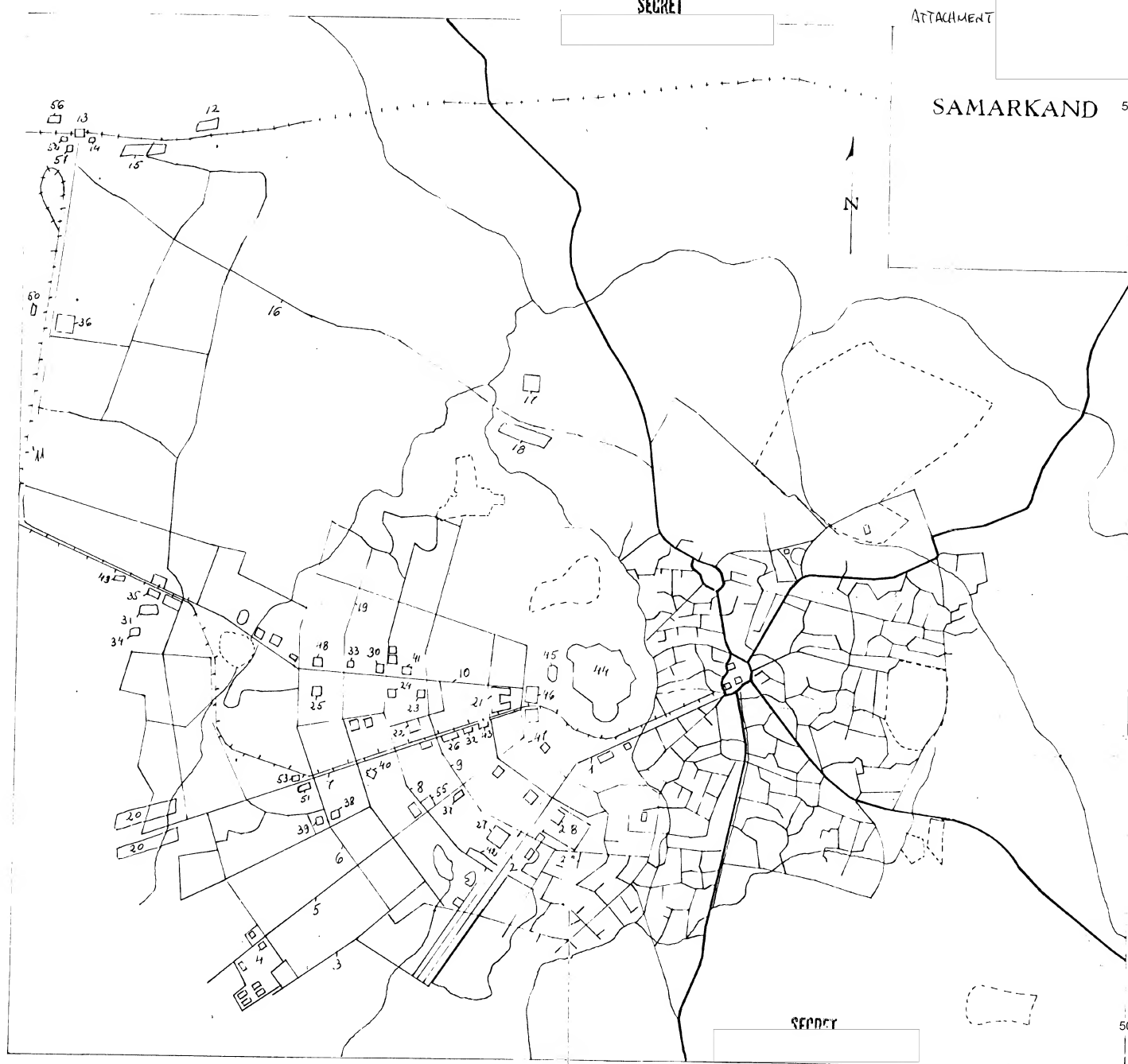
1. Tashkent Street
2. Gorkiy Street
3. Hospital Street
4. 396th Military Hospital
5. Uzbekistan Street
6. Engels Street
7. Frunze Street
8. Lenin Street
9. Communist Street
10. Karl Marx Street
11. Oktyabr Street
12. Cotton gin
13. Samarkand railroad station
14. Railroad police station
15. Military stores area and military unloading ramp.
16. Chernaya Doroga, road connecting the railroad station with the city
17. Brick factory
18. Republican hospital
19. Nekrasov Street
20. Lenin Plant (formerly Krasnyy Dvigatel)
21. Oblast Party committee
22. Central post office
23. Telephone exchange
24. Music academy
25. Republican Militia Directorate
26. Medical Institute
27. City hospital
28. Bulvar Pobedy (formerly Abramskiy Bulvar) [sic]
29. State university
30. Hotel
31. Prison
32. Military commissariat
33. Oblast prosecution office
34. Bakery
35. Military camp (armor, infantry)
36. Tea packing plant
37. Garrison headquarters
38. Oncological hospital
39. Party club and library (Partkabinet)
40. Party lecturers club
41. Municipal council
42. Oblast council
43. Commercial Institute
44. Old fortress, used by the armed forces
45. Sports stadium
46. Military stores
47. Skalyanskaya Street
48. KGB offices and prison in the yard
49. Agricultural Institute
50. Michurin agricultural experimental station
51. Power station
52. Power station
53. Wine factory No. 2
54. Omitted on sketch
55. Teachers college
56. Contagious diseases hospital
57. Railroad workers hospital

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